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THE MONTANA TECH'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER TECHNOCRAT

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS

Students enjoy new freshmen orientation format at Tech

THE INSEPERABLE DUO

Tech volleyball strikers on their enduring friendship, stress, and being a student athlete

Jordan Danz and Haley Druyvestein

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Image by Molly O'Neill

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A Message from the Student Body

By Kirstie McPherson, ASMT President

The Associated Students of Montana Tech (ASMT), the student body government is thrilled to be starting another school year. We have many new goals, and objectives this year that will benefit the campus and the community. This year ASMT is working on several large initiatives that we hope will build a strong sense of community between students and community members; some of our initiatives include:

1. Building and maintaining our ASMT controlled entities including the Technocrat, KMSM-FM, Campus Entertainment, and Intramurals.
2. Helping the campus community engage and become more unified.
3. Building ties from the campus to the community via volunteering and other efforts.

ASMT is a collection of 12 senators and 3 executives; this group oversees many different business items on campus and strives to help different campus clubs, individuals, and groups. The executive cabinet consists of Julia Bryant; vice president, Jake Erpenbach; treasurer, and myself as president. Our senators include: Rob Corson, Nathan Sutton, Kyle Hyde, Cody Hartman, Trevor Ivory, Jamie Nelson, Erin Good, Alison Elwell, Rhiley Mickey, Steven Beck, David Lawson, and Melissa Ruschetti.

The Associated Students of Montana Tech is excited to be a part of the Tech campus and to be a part of the community. We have made huge progress in just a short amount of time this year! We would like to encourage all students to openly discuss concerns and questions with us. We are working to connect more with our student body than we ever have before.

On behalf of the entire ASMT Senate we thank you for choosing us to represent the students of Montana Tech.

Lessons from a Life in Conservation

By Pat Munday

After more than forty years of outstanding leadership in the conservation community, Jon Roush, PhD, has learned many lessons. He shared some of this wisdom at a Montana Tech public lecture hosted by Dr. Beverly Hartline, Vice Chancellor for Research, and Doug Coe, College of Letters, Sciences, and Professional Studies Dean.

Dr. Roush began his career as professor of literature with Reed College after taking the PhD with UC Berkeley. Accolades from his early career include the prestigious 1959 Glascock Poetry Prize.

In 1971, after seven years with academia, Roush was lured away by the environmental movement. It was a heady time: the Wilderness Act had recently been passed, President Nixon bowed to environmental populism to create the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Clean Water Act put an end to what, up until that time, had been common for the time, American rivers so polluted that they caught fire. Over the course of his career, Roush served as Executive Vice President of The Nature Conservancy, President of the Wilderness Society, and currently serves on

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Movie Review: The Maze Runner

Flawed adaptation still worthy of a ticket

By Emmy Keenan

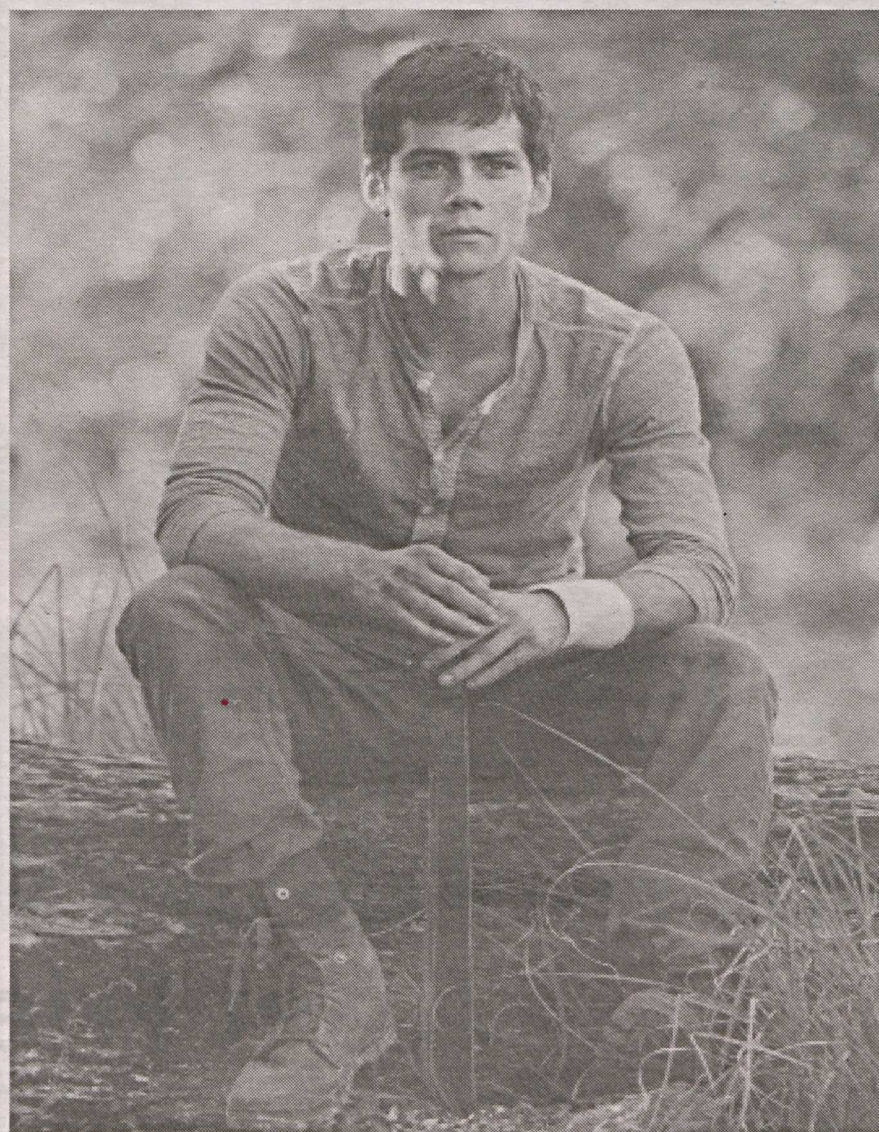
If you're into post-apocalyptic young adult science fiction, you may have been as horrified as I was to learn that the cinematic release of *The Maze Runner* had been pushed back by a few months. For the enthusiastic fans of the book, the wait is over.

This *Maze Runner* directed by Wes Ball, is an adaptation of the book of the same name, written by James Dashner. Our protagonist, Thomas, played by Dylan O'Brien (*Teen Wolf*), wakes up in a mysterious place cut off from civilization known as the Glade. The Glade is a large open area surrounded by a wall on all four sides, and beyond the walls lies The Maze.

With no memory of the outside world or his previous life, Thomas quickly begins to search for a way out of the maze along with a small community of boys who had all found themselves in the same situation without any prior knowledge. Exploring this massive stone labyrinth and finding a way out, however, seemed to be easier said than done. Mechanical monsters known as "Grievors" roam the maze freely at night. Luckily for the boys, the maze's walls seal at night and open in the morning to keep the Grievors out of the glade. Up until Thomas's arrival, nobody had seen a griever and lived to tell about it, but this was only the first of many changes to come for the residents of The Glade when their *Lord of the Flies* lifestyle becomes a cat-and-mouse game.

As a standalone film, *The Maze Runner* is an exciting and original twist on a dystopian society. This movie is rich in detailed scenery, thought-evoking plot revelations, and dynamic characters. An intense battle scene or two is always a good plus. It was an interesting and unpredictable story that raised a lot of questions, ones that keep audiences watching till the very end.

For those of you who read the book you may have picked up on a few differences. It had been a few years since I had read the book. Many of the elements in this movie were as if the pages had come to life on the big screen, however some of the pre-production choices hindered this film. The casting of Gally, played by Will Poulter (*We're the Millers*), was a conflicting feature with me, as his physical characteristics in the book differed from Gally in the film. Also details like the Grievors and the Griever Hole were not as they were described in the book. For the most part the movie was true to its book counterpart and the screenwriters, Noah Oppenheim (*The Today Show*), Grant Pierce Myers (*The Benchwarmers*), and T.S. Nowlin (*2015 remake of Fantastic Four*), remained faithful to the



Dylan O'Brien as Thomas in 20th Century Fox's *The Maze Runner*

original story.

If you couldn't get enough of *The Maze Runner* or were unsatisfied by the film's sudden ending, go to the nearest bookstore or library and pick up a copy of the book. If you've already done that, you may be interested in the series' three other books with a fourth in the works. There has also been word of plans for a film adaptation of *The Scorch Trials*, the second book of Dashner's series.

As far as book-based movie series go, *The Maze Runner* fits right in alongside *The Hunger Games* and *Divergent*. This film is an iconic addition to the cinematic world of young adult science fiction.



Image by Molly O'Neill

Haley Druyvestein (left) and Jordan Danz

A Set Friendship

Tech volleyball stars Danz and Druyvestein on school, stress, and friendship

By Molly O'Neill

For Jordan Danz and Haley Druyvestein, it is more than just the game of volleyball. It is a friendship that was rooted because of volleyball. For the two Tech strikers, it is a friendship that will not cease off the court and after the degree reaches their hands.

Jordan and Haley are both sophomores at Montana Tech pursuing a nursing degree alongside playing collegiate volleyball.

"I wanted to go to college for academics, then sports," said Jor-

dan Danz, "I want to give school 100%. I want to give volleyball 100%."

"It's always great to have a friend to lean on when you are challenged; as well as, a peer who is willing to challenge you to become even better."

Brian Solomon

As a student-athlete, Danz and Druyvestein's daily schedule mirrors the average college student. There is practice and games throughout the entire week. For the two players, they are making personal sacrifices. They spend more time working on technique and strategy than anything else; relaxation is a scarcity. Some days they might forget to eat; others days they might remember they need to shower.

"School is demanding," said Druyvestein. "I've never done anything so mentally and physically draining. Some days you can feel so low or helpless, and then you'll have amazing days."

The transition from high school to college, students realize the measures that need to be taken at a collegiate level. They said goodbye to passing exams with little to no studying and dismiss classes once considered an "easy A." Studying at Montana Tech requires time and devotion. But, for a student-athlete, the hustling equation is coupled with one more factor—the time and commitment your sport demands from you.

"After a game all I'll want is to sleep on the bus, but know I can't because of an exam or homework that is due," said Danz.

Both Jordan and Haley can attest that time management is the biggest struggle they face. Head Coach Brian Solomon understands the difficulties his strikers are enduring, and why the two ladies are a perfect fit for each other.

"They are great support for one another," said Lady Digger Volleyball Head Coach, Brian Solomon. "It's always great to have a friend to lean on when you are challenged; as well as, a peer who is willing to challenge you to become even better."

Luckily, the two players have each other despite the draining demands of school and athletics. Haley and Jordan are always seeking improvement, and they aren't afraid of criticism, as long as it is constructive.

"We aren't afraid to make each other mad, it's just the brutal truth of what we need to do and we just don't really know it," said Druyvestein.

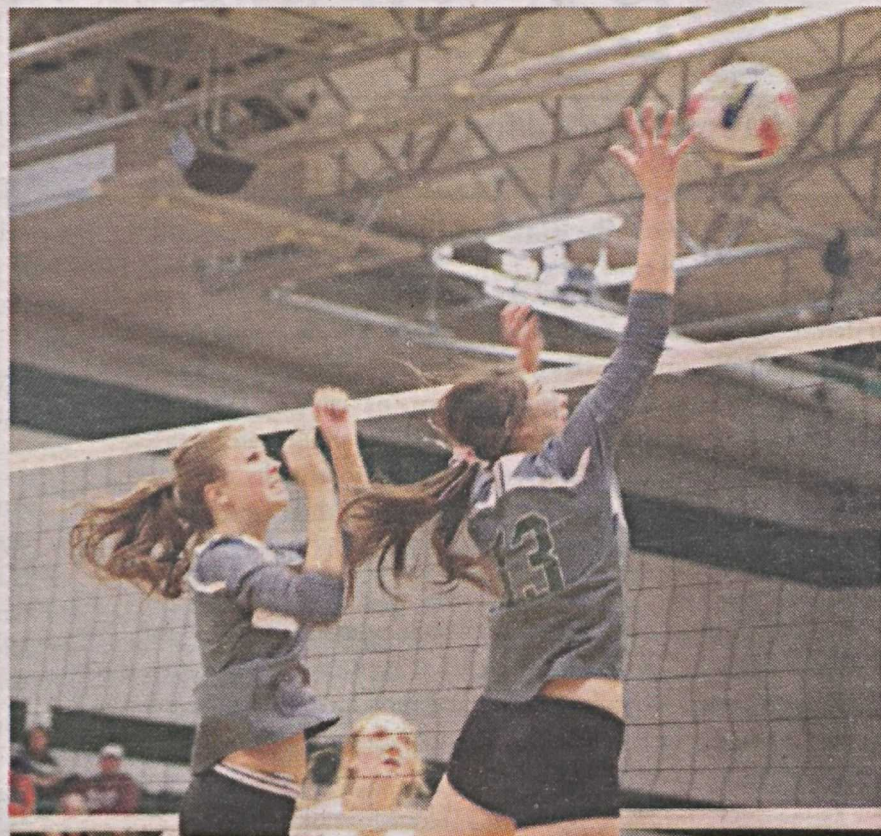
Their efforts in the world of academics and their dedication to the sport of volleyball do not go unnoticed. For Professor Bill Good, he sees the two girls as role models for student athletes nationwide.

"For a professor it is fun to see your students in another way and appreciate how much they put into their studies as well as into volleyball," said Bill Good, Associate Professor. "I see improvement in their volleyball skills and achievements as students. I know student-athletes who are successful learn how to handle the demands of both roles."

Haley and Jordan set personal and team goals. Although they are both naturally right-handed, they warm up before each game serving with their left hand, which exposes their drive for personal improvement.

"They warm up together most days, practice and games," added Solomon. "They play different positions, but their relationship has probably helped in both aspects."

Between papers piled atop desks and rallying on the court, or in the gym, Haley and Jordan ensure themselves to spend time with family and friends, and setting aside time for their hobbies, such as: hiking, Pink Gloves Boxing, skiing, and even petting cats at the animal shelter.



Druyvestein (left) and Danz (right) in action

Photo by Ali Almeshaal

For Danz and Druyvestein, what is the meaning of their friendship?

"A comfortable feeling, you don't have to worry making the wrong decision," said Danz. "Sometimes we need to 'rent' though—ranting and venting, so we just call it renting."

With a booked schedule, a little renting seems necessary to maintain one's sanity. Thankfully, it is amity shared on and off the court, a responsibility to ensure effervescence still remains after exerting games and stressful classes.

"I'm a weird person, and so is she, so you know it works," said Druyvestein.

The Lady Diggers' next home game is Thursday, October 16, 7PM, at the HPER Complex. Their next games will be on the road against MSU-Northern and Lewis-Clark State College.

Driverless Cars in Butte Soon?

Montanans respond to California allowing for driverless cars

By Blake Nellis

BUTTE-How do you feel about sharing the road with a car that has no driver? According to an article posted by *The Guardian* on the September 18, California issued twenty-nine permits to driverless cars to be tested on public roads. These modified cars navigate by GPS and react to their surroundings using a roof-mounted radar that creates a three-dimensional map of the area. This technology is potentially a godsend for elderly and disabled drivers who want to regain their freedom, but some people remain skeptical such as Montana Tech's Liberal Studies Jack Crowley.

"If one of these cars gets into a wreck, who's responsible for that?" asked Crowley. "When you look back at the last ten, twenty, thirty years and see instances when [car manufacturers] have cut corners because it's cheaper to pay medical costs than it is to fix a malfunction, it's easy to lose faith in these companies."

Others are cautiously optimistic, like Montana Tech student Colton Banning.

"I think that self-driving cars could lower the amount of accidents on roadways," Colton remarked. "However, if that system breaks down it could cause an issue, especially since the [automated] drivers won't have the same level of experience."

In the last decade cars have gotten more and more friendly with computers in general. Digitizing a car's systems seems unnecessary when cars were easier to develop in the 70's, but this computer integration paves the way for new technologies and safety measures, as well as making diagnosis of malfunctions much more efficient. Guy Perkins, sales manager at Toyota of Butte, explains below.

"If you were to look at a 1998 Honda that had a window that wouldn't roll up and down you would take the door panel off, take the switch out, and do a test on the switch to see if power was running through it, then you would do a test on the motor," explained Perkins. "With any newer car, if I plug in a factory computer, I can push the button on the window and the computer will tell me if that button is sending a signal to roll the window down, and it will tell me if the motor

is trying to respond."

This quick diagnosis, he later explained, does come with the added cost of extra training and equipment. One of his mechanics has received more than 1100 supplementary classes to keep up with the growth in technology. Radar cruise control is a development that Perkins used to illustrate the difficulty that exists in servicing ever more intricate cars.

"Four years ago radar cruise became available," added Perkins. "When a manufacturer releases something like that onto the market they have a diagnostic plan that they make available to the dealers."

The bottleneck in the process of integrating automated cars into American society at this point isn't a shortage of knowledge; it's a shortage of facilities and trained personnel to fill them. Technological progress is rapidly progressing, that we are coming to think of it as some kind of natural force. It's inevitable, and apparently unconcerned with human affairs. This matter of automated cars seems to agree with that paradigm. We live in a time when technology progresses faster than humans can adopt and harness it.

These modified cars navigate by GPS and react to their surroundings using a roof-mounted radar that creates a three-dimensional map of the area



Google

New Beginnings at Montana Tech

New orientation format welcomes over 500 new students

By Brandon Ailport

BUTTE- With five days until the start of the new fall semester, Montana Tech welcomed over 500 new students with a brand new orientation format spread across the weekend. The new orientation festivities included a welcoming barbeque sponsored by the Butte Chamber of Commerce, a seminar on sexual assault, and a seminar on the perils of drinking and driving. Activities were planned for the weekend including a trip to see the Oredigger football team play against the University of Montana-Western in Dillon, a trip to Fairmont Hot Springs, and a trip to the drive-in at Silver Bow.

A quick summer's past left Montana Tech students searching for more time before the pages of weighted books cling to their every thought. A single bird flies effortlessly through the empty courtyard of Montana Tech as fall leaves drift across the uncertain path to the empty classrooms. The echoes of footsteps were once heard through the halls of an eerie building a moment ago. It is on this day that life and minds bring a new sense of hope to the world of college as Residence Hall fills its beds. Freshman Orientation began as students fill the courtyard and begin the long trek towards a new journey.

Chris Van Nuland, the Director of Student Activities at Montana Tech, has been working to improve students' social lives over the past few years, and to create this new culture at Montana Tech, and it starts with orientation.

"Freshmen orientation has evolved greatly," said Van Nuland. "For

example, when I was a student at Montana Tech from 1980 to 1984, fall orientation essentially was a one day event held in the HPER. Freshmen lined up for about a half a mile at the entrance of the HPER as if waiting to see a Led Zeppelin reunion concert. Once in the hot and humid HPER, freshmen met with an academic advisor, registered for classes, paid for classes, and received a parking decal. Fast forward to 2014, and we now have a three day orientation filled with work-shops and seminars, and three days of just plain fun."

Stretched out over nearly a week, freshmen orientation was designed to bring people together and give the students as much information as possible. It still contained a lot of the good old traditions in which

Montana Tech was founded on among other new and exciting events consisting of convocation ceremony, the 7th annual Trek to the M, freshmen engineering orientation and the Student Assistance Foundation's Running Amuck, alongside with many other activities and events.

"I can't think of any questions or concerns that orientation didn't cover," said Hannah Harris, a freshman in Petroleum Engineering. "They pretty much went straight to the details of what we needed to know as incoming freshmen. I think the best part of orientation was just getting to meet some of the other freshmen and make new friends."

"The purpose behind it is to connect you with people, programs, and services. We tried to give you good solid information."

Paul Beatty

The halls that Tech has devoted to the advancement of education, with students gripping at the thought of a degree in healthcare, liberal studies, communications and others will be seeking a pathway to a better life. And for some of Tech's students, it is the continuation of a dream to follow their parents through Tech's curriculum and join their desired field as an engineer. For other students, they serve a calling to help the few people whom need their valuable expertise. Any dream these young minds have starts today with orientation.

"It was set up better than it has been in the past," said Dean of Students and Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Paul Beatty. "The purpose behind it is to connect you with people, programs and services. We tried to give you good solid information. I give credit to Chris Van Nuland and all of the people that worked on orientation: Highlands College, counselors, to even the deans of the colleges, from engineering to letters of sciences. Everyone tries to work together to make it worthwhile."

Any degree that these up and coming students choose to strive for at Montana Tech can change the course of human life with their creative and open minds. Sadly, over half will not pass this challenging course to push and fight their way towards a career of desire.

"It'll be a lot of hard work but you got to put the time in to get it," said Devon Ward, a freshman football player looking to study engineering.

Freshmen are weighted down by choices and decisions that can affect their outcomes in life and how they affect the world. Students' futures have begun on this day. There will be days where everything seems to be against them and their dreams. Their choice is to fight back and to fulfill their destiny as freshmen as they make friends and work towards the next year, to show up, and to dream to build a better world.

"I think the best part of orientation was just getting to meet some of the other freshmen and make new friends."

Hannah Harris

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the board of Western Rivers Conservancy (WRC). Along the way, he also owned and operated ranches in the Big Hole and Bitterroot River valleys of Montana. Roush's Big Hole ranch was surrounded by land owned by the Mount Haggin Land & Livestock Company, a subsidiary of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company. When the land was slated for sale and subdivision, Roush found help from The Nature Conservancy and facilitated the transfer of about 99,000 acres to public ownership by the National Forest and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. Though recently retired, Roush and his wife Joyce Chinn operated Roush-Chinn Consulting, LLC, and consulted with more than 100 conservation and environmental education groups.

Roush's talk was in three parts: a theory of how conservation actions occur; emerging issues that will affect the future; and strategies for the future.

As a working theory, Roush explained the conservation pyramid. First comes motivation, usually the love of a particular place. Second comes judgment, with an institutional basis such as the Endangered Species Act or Montana's Natural Resource Damage Program. Third comes strategy, the nuts and bolts of a plan to make things happen. Crucial to the logic of strategy are clear goals, resource analysis, and obstacle assessment. The fourth and final step is execution, which includes monitoring results and being flexible enough to adapt as necessary.

From start to finish, conservation actions happen because of transaction-based leadership. When the action depends upon donor funding, the organization must meet the donor's needs, helping the donor in some tangible way. Good leaders act authentically and can be trusted by the organization's staff and partners.

As emerging issues that will shape the future, Roush warns us that the world is becoming increasingly hot, flat and crowded. Hot, because of climate change and the drastic ways it shifts wildlife and plant ranges and transforms habitat. Flat, because we are increasingly interconnected at a global level—when markets in America sneeze, China catches a cold. Crowded, because we are heading for global population expected to exceed 10 billion around the year 2050. In an increasingly polluted world with finite levels of natural resources such as water, national and global politics will become increasingly contentious. The U.S. is experiencing a widening gap between rich and poor, and also an increasing preference for short-term gratification. For conservation organizations, these changes make fundraising increasingly difficult.

Despite Roush's pessimism regarding emerging issues, he still believes there are ways the conservation movement can continue to be effective. His three-part advice is for strategies that are inclusive, local and consequential. Inclusive means using sound science and effective com-



Photo by Vincent S. D'Addario

Sitting from left to right: Marie Borroff, Joyce Horner, Moira Thompson '59, and John Crowe Ransom. Standing is Sylvia Plath Hughes and Jon Roush.

munication that emphasized values. For example, stakeholders who are politically divided might agree on value-based issues, such as the importance of water conservation to ranchers, anglers, and environmentalists in Montana. Local conservation strategies appeal to those with the most to gain or lose. For example, Western Rivers Conservancy partnered with the Yurok Tribe to create a salmon sanctuary on the Klamath River. WRC helped the tribe acquire 47,000 acres of critical habitat, financing the purchase through sustainable forestry that, along with salmon, will be a future source of wealth and stability for the Yurok People.

Roush concluded his talk by stressing the importance of a utilitarian approach. The ends can justify the means, and conservationists should not fight impossible odds when other tools are available. For example, when seeking to protect a crucial barrier island on the Atlantic coast, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) found that one owner was willing to sell but refused to deal with environmental groups. TNC set up a fictitious development group. The developer then bought the property and transferred ownership to TNC.

A lively discussion period followed with Tech students and faculty, and members of the Butte community. The Research Office has made a significant contribution to Montana Tech through its public lecture series. It is a mark of achievement for an institution like Tech to have an excellent speaker series, and it's a great weekly opportunity for students, faculty, and concerned citizens of Butte.